The Neurosurgery News is looking for stories about our team members for upcoming issues. This means you! If you have a unique talent or participate in something unique or different, let us know. We will be sure to feature you soon!

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Another Great Holiday Party

A fantastic event at a fantastic venue.

The annual holiday party was held on December 12, 2011, returning to the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club for the second straight year. While the winds were blowing, making for a chilly night, the scene inside was full of warmth and holiday cheer.

With a fantastic spread of food, and an extensive selection of libations, the party was certain to be a success from the start. Bolstering this was the fantastic melodies provided by two musical groups throughout the night. One of these groups was lead by the daughter of our new administrative assistant, Kristen MacPhee. Both groups had the dance floor full and kept the party moving.

While the temperatures are starting to get warmer, 2012’s holiday party will be here before you know it. Hope to see you all there!

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Department Celebrates Upcoming Birth of Dr. Eltahawy’s First Child

Books are the Present of Choice for the Day

On January 25th, members of the faculty and staff for the Department came together in the Rengachary Memorial Neurosurgical Library to celebrate. What were they celebrating, you ask? The celebration revolved around one momentous event, February. To help it arrive sometime in the month of February. To help them with the momentous event, the department came together to celebrate.

To speak more plainly, a baby shower was held for Dr. Eltahawy and his wife, Alyaa. This will be their first child, whom they are expecting to arrive sometime in the month of February. To help them with the momentous event, the department came together to celebrate.

If you would like to see more photos from the event, please check them out on the Department’s M Drive.

Brain Food for the Month

The Best of 2011*

Top Grossing Movie: Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows, Part II; $381,011,219
Best Selling Book: Steve Jobs, Walter Isaacson; over 400,000 copies
Best Selling Album: 21, Adele: 5.82 million copies
Most Downloaded Song: Rolling In The Deep, Adele: 5.81 million downloads
Best Selling Automobile: F-150 Pickup Truck, Ford Motor Company, Inc.: 390,661 units
Best Selling Video Game: Call of Duty: Modern Warfare 3: 12.5 million copies
Most Watched TV Program: Super Bowl XLV; 111 million viewers (also of all time)
Most Watched YouTube Video: Friday by Rebecca Black, 180,000,000 views

As you can see from the pictures, a great time was had by all. A wonderful luncheon was coordinated and put together by Kristin, Debbie, and Pam, and not a complaint was to be heard from anyone in attendance. Also, a wide selection of gifts, which were mainly books for the new child, were presented to the happy couple.

Upcoming Dates of Interest:
02.07.12 Tu B’Shevat
02.08.12 Boy Scout Day
02.14.12 Valentine’s Day
02.20.12 Presidents Day
02.21.12 Fat Tuesday / Mardi Gras
02.22.12 Ash Wednesday
02.29.12 Leap Day
03.02.12 Read Across America Day
03.08.12 Purim
03.11.12 Daylight Savings Time Starts
03.17.12 St. Patrick’s Day
03.20.12 Vernal Equinox
03.30.12 National Doctors’ Day

What’s on Your Mind?

Some New Old Changes and Some Catching Up!

First off, we know we haven’t been around in a while. Unfortunately, the hubbub of the holidays, and all that is wrapped up with it, got the best of our editorial staff. However, we are back for 2012 and beyond. So, let’s do a little catching up and some housekeeping as well.

You may notice that the newsletter looks a little different. You may also remember that our last contest was to try to spot how many differences were in the last newsletter in comparison to what typically was presented in the past. While that was a fun contest (and our winners are listed below), some of the changes grew on us a little, and a decision to keep them was made. We hope you enjoy the new look of the newsletter; however, if you have any suggestions on our presentation or things you would like to see in Neurosurgery News, please let us know.

Secondly, with a contest comes winners. And with our last contest, we actually had two winners. They were Dr. Szrlep and Laura Susick from Dr. Conti’s lab. They both picked out 8 of the 9 changes.

Did You Know?

Marfan Syndrome is a rare condition that affects the connective tissue of approximately 1 out of every 5,000 people, regardless of age, sex, or race.

As connective tissue is found throughout the body, it can affect the body in a variety of ways. The most serious is a rupture or tear of the aorta, individuals with Marfan Syndrome are 250 times more likely to have this occur without any form of treatment.

While those that have treatment are much more likely to live a long life, awareness needs to be raised so more know about this condition. You can find more out about Marfan Syndrome and the National Marfan Association by clicking on the logo below:

Have you become a fan of the Department’s Facebook page yet? If not, do so here: http://www.facebook.com/wsuneurosurgery

Thanks to everyone who participated, and we are looking forward to a great 2012 with you!
On the Brain for February
It’s Oscars Time

Can you figure out the name of these award-winning movies?

Below are the titles of 20 Best Picture Oscar-winning movies....sort of. We’ve somewhat changed the titles with the creative use of some synonyms. See if you can tell us the real titles....and the year each of them won the award.

1. Departed with the Air Currents
2. Mammoth
3. The Best Performance on The Third Planet From the Sun
4. Bewitching Hour Vaquero
5. Pulchritudinous Damsel that Belongs To Me
6. A Chap for Spring, Summer, Winter and Fall
7. Absolutely Not a Nation for Senior Citizen-Aged Males
8. Cavorts with Canis Lupus
9. The Patron
10. Non-findable Saturday and Sunday
11. Monikers of Propensity
12. The Rented Living Space
13. Bang
14. Squadron
15. Conveyances of Pyre
16. Proper Male’s Bargain
17. What Was the Amount of Malachite In My Swale?
18. The Sonancy of Harmonized Sounds
19. Craggy
20. The Male Monarch’s Oratory

The first person to provide Brandon with a list of all 20 movie titles and dates correct will be deemed the winner. In the event that no one gets all 20 titles, whomever has the highest number correct by 02.29.12 will win. Good luck!